GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:666
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
BAN ON PTV
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently formulated plans to counter propaganda made by Pak TV and also to ban telecast of Pak TV programmes as reported in the `Nav Bharat Times` dated June 2, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether a group of Senior Officials have been set up to examine the role of Pak TV;

(d) if so, the time by which the group is likely to submit its report to the Government; and

(e) the details of the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to counter Pak propaganda?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (e): It is the continuous endeavour of the Government to counter propaganda made by Pak TV through suitable programmes on DD/AIR. Under a Special Package, extension and upgradation up of Doordarshan`s infrastructure to increase DD`s coverage in the border areas, has also been undertaken.

There is no proposal at present to ban Pak TV. A Committee under Section 20 of the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act 1995, has been constituted to look into violations of the Programme Code, prescribed under the said Act and Rules framed there-under. Necessary actions is taken on the recommendations of the Committee, from time to time.